IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-9 and 17, without prejudice and substitute for corresponding pending claims the claims as shown rewritten below with amendments effected therein. Appendix I is attached hereto having marked versions of said claims with amendments indicated by brackets and underlining.

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10. (Amended) An integrated sealed secondary battery comprising:

a plurality of cells arranged in a row respectively accommodating electricity-generating elements within rectangular tubular cases having a bottom, with their upper open ends being sealed;

first cooling medium passages formed on both a first side and a second side of the row of the cells and having top and bottom walls;

second cooling medium passages formed between the cases of the cells that communicate with the first cooling medium passages on both the first side and the second side of the row of the cells;

projection strips provided in the first cooling medium passages such as to alternately extend downwards from the top wall and upwards from the bottom wall of the first cooling medium passages so that the first cooling medium passages meander upwards and downwards; and

air escape apertures formed between the top wall of the cooling medium passages and top ends of the projection strips that extend downwards from the top wall of the cooling medium passages.

11. (Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim 10 wherein inclined faces are formed on the top walls of the cooling medium passages in at least portions facing the air escape apertures.

12. (Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim 11 wherein the inclined faces are inclined upwards towards both the first side and the second side of the row of cells from the portion opposite the air escape apertures in the top wall of the cooling medium passages.

13.(Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim 12 wherein the angle of inclination of the inclined faces with respect to a horizontal plane is 3 to 5°.

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18. (Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim 10, further comprising means for generating pressure difference between side ends of the second cooling medium passages between the cases.

9 1 19. (Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim 10, wherein flow path cross-sectional areas of the first cooling medium passages on both the first side and the second side of the row of cells are mutually different.

10 1 20. (Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim 10, wherein opposing wall faces of the cases of the cells are tapered from the first side to the second side of the row of cells whereby the width of the second cooling medium passages between the cases is gradually reduced from the first side to the second side of the row of cells.

B2 contd

11 1 21. (Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim 10, wherein the projection strips are provided on both the first side and the second side of the row of cells, the width of opposite cooling medium passages on both the first side and the second side of the row of cells being different from each other.

12 11 22. (Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim 21, wherein the thickness of the wall of the cooling medium passages on both the first side and the second side of the row of cells is different whereby the width of opposite first cooling medium passages on both the first side and the second side of the row of cells is different from each other.

B3 cont'd

13 11

~~23~~. (Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim ~~21~~, wherein a height of the projection strips is different whereby the width of opposite first cooling medium passages on both the first side and the second side of the row of cells is different from each other.

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15 1

~~25~~. (Amended) The integrated sealed secondary battery according to claim ~~10~~, further comprising:

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distribution headers provided at both a third side and a fourth side of the row of cells for distributing and collecting cooling medium in the first cooling medium passages on both the first side and the second side of the row of cells;

an inlet orifice provided in the distribution header at the third side of the row of cells;

an outlet orifice provided in the distribution header at the fourth side of the row of cells; and

the distribution headers respectively having connecting ports for communicating with the first cooling medium passages on both the first side and the second side of the row of cells, wherein at least in one of the distribution headers the cross sectional area of the connecting ports are different from each other.